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NEGRO LYNCHING FROM CATHOLIC STANDPOINT

Sustains Booker T. Washington's Contentment
Anent Miscarriage of Justice--No Dis-
tinction in God's Church.

(Written for The Intermountain Catholic.)
Birmingham, Ala., Feb. 25.--The Age-Herald tomorrow will publish the following letter from Booker T. Washington.

"Within the last fortnight three members of my race have been burned at the stake, and of these one was a woman. Not one of the three was charged with any crime even remotely connected with the abuse of a white woman. In every case murder was the sole accusation. All of these burnings took place in broad daylight, and two of them occurred on Sunday afternoon in sight of a Christian church.

"These barbarous scenes are more disgraceful and degrading to the people who inflict punishment than those who receive it.

"If the law is disregarded when a negro is concerned, it will soon be disregarded when a white man is concerned.

"Woe of all these outrages take place in communities where there are Christian churches, where the Christian Endeavor societies and Young Men's Christian associations, where collections are taken up for sending missionaries to Africa and China and the rest of the so-called heathen world."

The above letter from Booker Washington is a severe arraignment not only of the lynchers who participated in the burning of the colored persons, but of the Christian communities who either sympathize with or connive at such barbarous outrages. They who are truly Christian and partake of the spirit of Christ are and must be opposed to all lawlessness. Neither color nor race can interfere with nor curtail the rights, liberty and protection of man.

From a Catholic standpoint, the negro, equally with the white man, is a child of Adam, having the same creator, and sharing in the merits of redemption which the Savior purchased for all on Calvary. The color of one's complexion makes no difference as to the moral and spiritual rights of individuals. In the Catholic ritual the baptism, marriage and funeral services are one and the same for the white and black person. The Church has seminaries and colleges in this country established especially for the colored race, and these seminaries, when properly equipped, are ordained priests and ministers before the altar of God. St. Augustine, the most learned and profound theologian among the early fathers of the Christian church, was a Numidian by birth. His color was no obstacle to his elevation to the episcopacy by Pope Siricius, who appointed him bishop of Hippo in 395.

In all Catholic churches the white and colored worship alike, kneel side by side at the altar rail and partake of the sacrament of the Blessed Eucharist without any class or color distinction. Why should man make a distinction when the Son of God made none? He assumed human nature to redeem and sanctify all children of Adam, of whom all, regardless of color, were lineal descendants. This, namely, the unity of the human race, or its common origin in Adam, is implied in the regeneration which takes place in baptism, in which the black and white child share in the same privileges and indulgence in the same hope of future glory. The Church teaches that all men are equal and entitled to the same natural rights; therefore, the colored person is fully entitled to all the natural rights of the white man. He may not be his equal in mental culture and inferior socially and physically, but these drawbacks should not infringe nor interfere with the natural rights bestowed on all men by the Creator. These rights, as expressed in the declaration of independence, are "life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness."

The natural law makes all men free and equal. The law of the land, like the law of God, must treat all alike. Mob violence is opposed to both. It is opposed to the law of nations, which, as interpreted by Roman jurisprudence, entitles every man to a fair and impartial trial suspected of any infraction of the law.

The cases cited by Booker Washington are a disgrace to any civilized community and opposed to every Christian instinct, which comes as a legacy bequeathed by Christ, who, dying on the cross, said: "Father, forgive them, for they know not what they do." Following in his footsteps, the Catholic Church does not consider black, brown, yellow or almond-colored a bluish tint a crime, no more than it deems white, with all its charms, a virtue. These distinctions are merely accidental and should never be allowed to mislead justice, for, as Booker Washington says, "If the law is disregarded when a negro is concerned, it will soon be disregarded when a white man is concerned."

How prevent such barbarities is a question of vital importance for our wise statesmen.

If the poor and the oppressed only thought of heaven, they would not complain so much at their miseries; if those in sorrow thought of heaven, they would not be so impatient; if we all thought more of heaven, and of the inexpressible great joy which the Lord has promised to those who love Him, we should not so frequently get discouraged at crosses and sufferings, at temptations and dangers, but we should tread in the footsteps of the saints, and regard all crosses and work, all struggles and self-denials, all suffering and vexations as light and easy to bear, and rejoice that God has given us the opportunity by crosses and sufferings to deserve heaven. For, dear Christian, the good God, who desires and seeks our salvation, often sends us tribulations and hardships, so as to make us averse to the vanities of this world, and to induce us to long all the more ardently for the immortal joys of heaven, and to make us strive after them more zealously.

Japan's Impregnable Seaport.
In the conflict between the czar and the mikado for supremacy in the East, the harbors of great importance in the play for strategic position are those about the Yellow sea, Korea bay and the Gulf of Pecheili, to which must be added, of course, the purely Japanese and Russian ports. There is really but one exclusively Russian port to be taken into account, and that is Vladivostok. Nor, because of the difficulty of reaching them and the splendid navy and strong coast defenses of Japan, need the eastern Japanese coast ports be considered. Yokohama, both the chief harbor and metropolis of the kingdom, which by its position protects Tokyo, the capital, is not only shielded by this location on the eastern coast, but is in a landlocked bay that could easily be rendered impossible of entrance in time of war.



RT. REV. JOHN LANCASTER SPALDING.



BOOKER T. WASHINGTON.

Second only to Yokohama, and in some respects not second to that, is Nagasaki. Here are located the great shipyards where a large portion of Japan's well equipped and modern vessels are built. The docking facilities are first class, there being two docks of granite. The harbor is said to resemble on a smaller scale that of New York, except that it is more beautiful. It is at the head of a short inlet, surrounded by richly colored hills and mountains. The architecture of the city is in harmony with the picturesque natural environment.

Nagasaki is the fastest cooling station in the world. This enhances its value as a naval base and, taken with its shipyards and its position on the western coast, renders it easily the most important port in the kingdom in time of war. While not in such an impregnable position as Yokohama, Nagasaki is yet an admirable position for defense. In fact, because of the mountainous character of the country and the consequent precipitous coasts and broken shore lines, all the seaboard cities of Japan are well protected from attack either by land or sea. Among the strong natural features that lend themselves to the aid of Nagasaki are the narrow straits through which the harbor must be reached. At the mouth of the inlet is the famous Pappenburg island, which on one side is a sheer face of rock 500 feet in height. It was down this cliff that 2,000 Christian worshippers were once thrown. But this was in the old days before Japan had been "Americanized." The Japs are not exactly Christians yet, but they have at least abandoned the diversion of tossing those who are Christians down a 500-foot rock into the sea.

There are several other Japanese ports of considerable importance, but they are nearly all on the eastern coast or on the straits leading thereto. Among these the most important are Hakodate, Tokushima, Kobe, Koichi and Hiroshima.

Hanna's Charitable Gifts.

There has been a good deal said about Senator Hanna's gifts to Catholic churches and to Catholic charities. The senator was not to blame for the publication. We estimate the total amount given to Catholic charities would not amount to the one-half of 1 per cent of his fortune.

People who lay up treasures ought to lay them up where rust and moth do not consume." What the generous senator gave to the support of Catholic charities was a profitable investment. A cup of cold water given in God's name will receive its reward. Hence it is more blessed to give than to receive.

Generosity is measured by the sacrifice it entails. Hence the poor woman in the Gospel who gave her mite gave more than all the others because while they gave of their abundance our Lord said: "She gave all that she had."

Senator Hanna's gifts, we are assured, were not confined to Catholic charities. Since honor should be given to whom honor is due, the newspapers should not have omitted the list of the senator's greater donations to the non-Catholic charities.--Catholic Universe.

Apostolic Mission House.

The Apostolic Mission House at the Catholic University is now finished, and has been accepted from the contractors by the Catholic Missionary Union. The work of construction has proceeded so rapidly that within a year of the date of laying the corner-stone the completed building has been placed at the disposal of the missionaries who are now lodged in the upper stories of Krane Hall. And they needed it badly, for the new house gives them large facilities for comfort and study, as well as opportunities for growth.

The building is a most beautiful structure, and is admired for its artistic architectural lines as well as for its historical associations. The old mission style of building so closely connected with the old Spanish missions in California is the prevailing type, and the use of this style of architecture ties together the original heroic missionary endeavor and this newer movement for the conversion of non-Catholics.

The religious Sisterhoods of the country have taken up with enthusiasm the furnishing of the rooms for the young missionaries, and almost with-

out exception they have each donated \$50 to provide the simple necessities for a priest student's room.

Immediately after Easter a conference of all the missionaries to non-Catholics will assemble at the Mission House, and for an entire week they will read and discuss carefully prepared papers on different phases of the work. This conference will begin on April 6 and will last until 14, on which day the new house will be dedicated by the Cardinal and the assembled Archbishops of the country. All the religious orders of missionaries have been invited to send representatives to the conference, and there will be some lay delegates also.

A Christian Scientist's Toothache.

We are not aware that "America is plunged into a furious discussion," as a London paper asserts, over Mother Eddy's inconsistency in having a troublesome tooth extracted; however, we are glad to be reminded of those lines of Shakespeare:

For there was never yet a philosopher
That could endure the toothache patiently.

The Mother's faith was momentarily weakened, no doubt, when she went to the dentist; but her pain may have supplied for it in some metaphysical way.--Aye Maria.

Not a Forceful Romanoff.

Though nominally an autocrat, the czar of Russia is practically powerless to carry out his pacific intentions. The system of bureaucracy which prevails in Russia is more powerful than the czar himself, who is officially helpless in the grip of the reactionary and barbarous official machinery of which he is nominally the master, but actually the slave. A man of greater courage and force of character might break the bonds of tradition and environment, take the reins of government into his own hands and give Russia the liberal and enlightened administration which the present czar professedly desires. But Nicholas II is neither forceful nor courageous. There was, it will be remembered, a report current that when as a young man he made, in company with his kinsman, the son of the king of Greece, a tour in the east on a certain occasion when his personal courage was put to the test it proved to be sadly wanting, and it is said that he has never since been a friend of his royal companion who was at that time the witness of his cowardice.

There is little of the heroic blood of the Romanoffs in the veins of Nicholas II, and, while he possesses many qualities superior to those of his warlike ancestors, he lacks their courage and thus becomes a mere figurehead of government, impotent either for the good or ill of the country over which he is reputed to be an absolute ruler.

It was De Toqueville who said that tyranny of which a coward is the head is the worst conceivable tyranny. This is the condition of Russia today.--Catholic Home Journal.

Catholic Schools of California.

From the accounts of progress and organization in the golden jubilee number of the Monitor it would seem that there are many lessons to be learned from the vigorous archdiocese of San Francisco. The parochial school system, especially, is admirably conducted. By a friendly rivalry among the schools and teaching orders, we are told that the diocese has been made "one vast field of comparative educational methods."

In order that benefit rather than harm might result from the divergence of system, Archbishop Riordan, through a system of diocesan educators, first made the course of study and the textbooks uniform; and then he established, in 1894, the annual convention of this latter experiment and its results is most interesting.

"In the halls of the cloistered nuns of the Presentation, the Orders employed in the parochial schools of the archdiocese assemble for the greater part of a week each year. Pedagogic courses and methods in all branches of secondary education are thoroughly discussed in papers and in the concrete. Professors from the universities of Berkeley and Stanford, and others equally eminent in the teachers' profession, have entered with zest into co-operation from the beginning. The round table conference following each session morning and afternoon, being of a more informal nature, gives the individual teachers opportunity to offer suggestions or obtain clearer information on the matters discussed in the papers read. In this way each year the parochial school department of the archdiocese grows more efficient. This has been the great aim of the archbishop, for he realized that

the primary and secondary schools are the real moulding places of the future, and that they should be the best that scientific pedagogics can make them, if we are to have a well-grounded Catholicity in the days to come."

Veneration Is Not Worship.

Rev. W. P. McCorkle, pastor of Savannah's leading Presbyterian church, has been disciplined by his congregation and granted an "indefinite leave of absence" because he announced as the subject of a forthcoming sermon, "The Error of Protestantism in Its Denial of the Proper Love and Reverence for the Holy Virgin." The officers of the church, in a published statement, declare that while Presbyterians hold the Mother of Jesus in high reverence, the subject of the minister's proposed discourse implied that a still higher tribute was due her. It is a pity Dr. McCorkle was not permitted to at least explain to his critics the difference between veneration and worship.

Where Catholics Lead.

"Well may those who hope for the welfare of this great republic shudder at race suicide," are the words of Dr. H. H. Sells, health officer of the city of Springfield, O., in his annual report just made public.

"The birth rate is not larger than it was a number of years ago, while the population of the city is much greater," said Dr. Sells, in discussing his report.

"The report shows that the net gains of births over deaths for the year is only 218, and the birth rate 17.44 per thousand. There are only ten more births than last year, while the population is far much greater. The report of births is for all classes, and the report does not show it, but it is the case, nevertheless, that in Catholic families the birth rate is from fifteen to eighteen above the death rate, which reduces the Protestant rate to almost nothing."

America's Great Catholic Philanthropist

The announcement made at the end of last week that Hon. John A. Creighton had added to the endowment of the Creighton University property valued at \$200,000 created no surprise among those who know the great Catholic philanthropist of Omaha. His large-hearted sympathy with every Catholic institution in our city and his active support of every Catholic enterprise have long since made him the representative of Catholic philanthropy in the middle west.

His identification with Catholic charity soon fitting acknowledgment when, in 1895, the late Pontiff, Pope Leo XIII, in recognition of his services to the cause of Catholicity in America, bestowed upon him the title of Count of the Holy Roman Empire, and a few years later, when the University of Notre Dame awarded him the Laureate medal as the Catholic layman who had most distinguished himself during the year. This new benefaction only adds to the list of a name already synonymous with generosity in every worthy cause. John A. Creighton stands as the foremost Catholic philanthropist of America. Many other Catholics there are in our land who possess greater wealth than he, but no one has made more noble use of the talent that God has entrusted to him.

No wonder Omaha is proud of such a citizen; no wonder the Catholics of Nebraska and of the west honor the name of Creighton. May he be spared for many years to see the good work that is going on, thanks to his munificence, grow to even greater proportions, and may his noble example inspire others to more generous efforts.--True Voice, Omaha.

Need of An Irish University.

Nothing can better illustrate how completely the machinery of education in Ireland is in the hands of Protestants than the fact brought out by the recent death of the MacDermott, K. C. Prince of Coolavin, that there is today not one Catholic on the Irish bench. Lord Russell of Killowen became Lord Chief Justice of England; he could not have occupied the place of recorder on the Irish bench if he had practiced law in his native land a lifetime. This only emphasizes the imperative need of an Irish Catholic university.--Western Watchman.

Power flows to us from the direction in which we lay stress on life--from the things we genuinely believe, strive for and love.

Have as little suspicion as possible, and conceal that.

BISHOP SPALDING ON THE LABOR PROBLEM

Mercenary Spirit Must Be Got Rid Of Before
Solution Can Be Effected--Social-
ism No Remedy.

In the presence of a vast audience at the Valentine theatre, Toledo, Ohio, recently, Rt. Rev. John Lancaster Spalding, bishop of Peoria, Ill., delivered a most interesting address on the labor problem. Mayor Jones introduced the speaker, and on the platform were Bishop Horstmann, many prominent priests and representatives of labor unions. Bishop Spalding, who was enthusiastically received, said:

"It is a natural impulse to sympathize with men rather than with money. Human life is the highest visible form of life. Nowhere is this sympathy more apparent than in America. God will be the most striking American trait. By Americanism I mean men who live here and love this country and try to aid in its upbuilding. This feeling has led us to invite hither to make their homes all the peoples of the earth, and especially those who are poor and oppressed, that they may find an opportunity.

"We have had the greatest success of any nation. We have taken first place in commerce and industry. We have an invincible people. No combination of powers would dream of attacking us. We are more universally intelligent than any other people, and this is due not alone to our schools, but to our life and our free institutions, our liberty and our feeling of responsibility that it arouses to make a man more truly man.

"Whatever we have undertaken we have brought to a successful issue. By a taint in our constitution we were brought to the discord of a civil war. Through infinite sacrifice and patient courage we came forth from the trial, north and south welded together in more real unity than ever before.

"Since that great victory a new question had forced itself on the American people. We had been largely agricultural. There were no syndicates; no large combinations of wealth; we did not compete in the markets of the world. Since then we have developed in industries, commerce and wealth in a way that has astonished the world and ourselves.

"But there has grown up a feeling of distress. There is a cry of hundreds of thousands saying: 'Why do multitudes work for the benefit of a few? It is a living question arising from our intelligence and our emotional nature. We should discuss it with all dispatch, calmly, without hate, with kindness and uprightness.'

"It is largely due to the mercenary spirit which dominates all nations. There is a reason for antagonism among classes. We should not have classes. I doubt whether we have classes in America.

"The world was made for the workers. There must be men who work with hearts and minds and consciences as well as those who work with their hands, if we are to be a civilized people. These workers are not enemies of our another. The men who have position and wealth are at one with the toilers who have strength and courage and patience. Neither the wealthy nor the laborers feel that things are right, but the great majority know that hate and unkindness will not better things.

"We are a practical people, and this practical bent, based on common sense, will enable us to settle this question. The earth was not formed by Catholics. A sudden revolution would not cure, but intensify, the evil. We are rightly dissatisfied with conditions that make men work to a degree incompatible with the development of the higher life. We see thousands doing work that degrades and prevents all improvement, and we say that this cannot last. We have been carried away by the mercantile spirit.

SOCIALISM OUT OF THE QUESTION.

"We must settle this question in obedience to the fundamental laws of our nature. I look upon socialism as out of the question. Those who want a swift settlement are fascinated by socialism.

"All the suffering of thousands of years has been for liberty and truth, for the opportunity of the individual to grow and to be more a man, to advance the family, the woman, the child, science, art and religion. These things are the treasures of humanity, not a sordid plenty. Yet that sordid plenty is the idea of socialism.

"Socialism in its origin was atheistic and materialistic, an enemy of the family and the church. However it may change, the original taint will remain always to vitiate it.

"Socialism is an impractical scheme. It has failed in small communistic societies. It has militated against the family. All of our support as a civilized people comes from the home, and except from the home the higher life cannot arise. In Europe there may be some excuse for socialism; there is none here. Americans do not want to live where a man cannot own his own home, cannot hold property of his own. The first to be somebody, not one in a herd, is in our blood.

"Without capital we cannot organize great industries or develop a country so vast as ours. Rich men and cities are necessities. Cities of about 100,000 would be ideal. Great cities are an evil, but an inevitable one. It is in the great centers that the labor problem becomes acute.

"Labor and capital are allies. The laborer needs the employer and the employer needs the laborer. They should work in union. Organized labor is necessary just as organized capital is necessary. The vast improvement from starvation wages in England, from unsanitary conditions, from the labor of women and children, is due to the labor union. They have educated men by bringing them together and making them think. I believe if there were no unions today men should be forced back to starvation and degradation.

"Competition has failed in many ways. Organized capital results in trusts and trusts have no souls, or devil's souls. They destroy competition by crushing the weak. That same competition would lower the wage. Laborers put their labor together that they may get a fair price in the market.

"The strike is the one great weapon of labor. Without it there is no means of redress. But it is the most dangerous of weapons, for it cuts both ways. It hurts the laborer more than the capitalist.